



Friday, March 13, 2015

**Best Western
Lee-Jackson Motor Inn &
Conference Center
Winchester, Virginia**

**8:15 AM - 3:45 PM
\$40 Registration Fee**

The Forum for Rural Innovation is a cooperative educational effort by the Offices of Agricultural Economic Development and Cooperative Extension in Clarke, Fauquier and Loudoun Counties, Virginia; Berkeley and Jefferson Counties, West Virginia; and The Town of Berryville, Virginia.

**www.biz.loudoun.gov
703-777-0426**

Forum for Rural Innovation: Growing Local Food & Beverages

This is the eleventh annual Forum for Rural Innovation. The purpose of the forum is to showcase new and exciting projects and programs that enhance farm or rural business profitability. The models presented at the forum also focus on conserving farmland and natural resources, and developing new approaches to rural prosperity in upscale areas where land commands premium prices.

The Forum has been planned to feature a series of presentations, with an emphasis on growing and making local foods and beverages. Topics and exhibits have been chosen to present practical examples of successful innovative operations that could be adapted to any farm. The program will feature some of the most progressive and recognized farms, organizations and research in the United States.

Who Should Attend

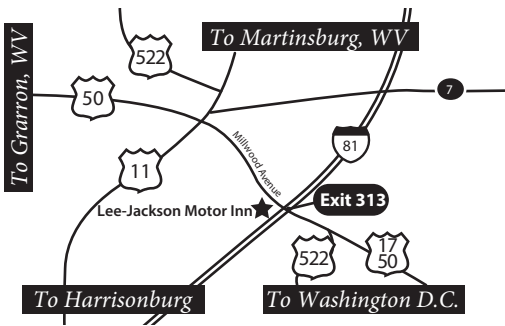
The conference is planned to provide farmers, landowners, rural business owners, local elected and appointed officials, and extension educators, economic development and planning professionals an opportunity to see and hear industry leaders discuss innovative practices and methods for agricultural development.

The program is open to all, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, veteran status, national origin, disability or political affiliation. Persons needing reasonable accommodations for any type of disability in order to attend this program should contact 703-777-0426.

**Best Western
Lee-Jackson Motor Inn &
Conference Center**

711 Millwood Avenue
Winchester, VA 22601

540-662-4154



Space is limited to the first 150 registered. Pre-registration is required by March 6, 2015.
The \$40 registration fee includes a continental breakfast and buffet lunch showcasing local foods.

Additional registration information, or information on becoming a trade show exhibitor is available online at www.biz.loudoun.gov or by calling 703-777-0426.

Forum for Rural Innovation: Growing Local Food & Beverages

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8:15 AM - 9:00AM

Registration, View Exhibits, Mackintosh Fruit Farm Cider & Apple Crisp with Black Dog Coffee

9:00 AM - 9:45 AM

Venture Capital

Caesar Layton, Founder of Cultivate Ventures, Washington, D.C.

Cultivate Ventures is an impact-focused venture firm built to accelerate the development of promising, sustainable startups, and take them from ideas to stable growth. Layton works with local food businesses on topics ranging from reaching out to the community to regulatory issues.

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

43,560 Project

Clifton Slade, Retired Virginia State University Extension Agent and Slade Farms, Surry, VA

Virginia State University’s “Project 43,560” explores a 1-acre farming model. Slade will discuss how a farmer can gross \$1 per square foot on one acre of land, if it is farmed the right way.

The goal of this project is to develop an economically viable model for small-scale organic vegetable farmers.

10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

Malting

Rick Wasmund, Copper Fox Distillery, Sperryville, VA

Hear about how Copper Fox Distillery, recognized for creating the first Applewood aged whisky in the world, emphasizes the combination of innovation and tradition to produce a whisky that is unique.

11:15 AM - 12:30 PM

Specialty Grains

Dr. Carl Griffey, Virginia Tech, W.G. Wysor Professor of Crop Genetics and Breeding

Trent Tebee, Three Monkeys Farm, Leesburg, VA

Discussion on the research being done at Virginia Tech with the Small Grains Breeding and Genetics Program, and a look into real life experience growing specialty grains and other products, such as organic rye berries, rye flour and sweet basil, that are used in the distilling and brewing process.

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

Lunch-Network & View Exhibits

Including local food products from:

Blue Ridge Cattlemen’s Association, Black Dog Coffee, Locke Store, South Street Under, Orr’s Farm Market, Oak Spring Dairy, Spring Gap Mountain Creamery & Mackintosh Fruit Farm

1:30 PM - 2:30PM

Farm Libations

Scott Harris, Catoctin Creek Distillery, Purcellville, VA

Rob Miller, Distillery Lane CiderWorks, Jefferson, MD

Billie Clifton, Backroom Brewery, Middletown, VA

Find out from the experts what it takes to start a business such as a distillery, brewery or cidery. The panel will also discuss how to create and market these special business ventures, the challenges they faced starting their operations, and what the future holds for the farm brewery, distillery and cider industries.

2:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Farm Liability

Brian Craddock, Attorney at Law, Lenhart Pettit, Charlottesville, VA

A discussion of strategies for managing the risks attendant to farm operations and agritourism in the region. Mr. Craddock will discuss how understanding liability may be a critical component in protecting your farm. Learn how farming presents unique risks, and how liability is addressed if accidents happen to farm visitors, vendors or others who come onto property.

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Aquaponics

Dr. Ken Semmens, West Virginia University Extension Specialist

Brian Tanguay, Tangy Produce, Shepherdstown, WV

Learn about the food production system that combines conventional aquaculture with hydroponics. Our speakers will discuss how aquaponics feeds water with fish excretions to a hydroponics system, which is then utilized by plants to create a sustainable food system.

3:30 PM - 3:45PM

Closing Remarks; Adjournment

2015 Innovation Award Winners

Rob Moutoux, Moutoux Orchard

Karl & Patricia Glaeser, Faith Like a Mustard Seed Farm

Bill White & Kerry Grantham, Meadow Green Farm, LLC

Forum for Rural Innovation – Friday, March 13, 2015 – Registration Form

Pre-Registration is required by Friday, March 6, 2015 – Space is limited to 150 participants.

Please complete this form and mail \$40 registration fee to:

Forum for Rural Innovation – Attn: Cassie Walls, Loudoun County Economic Development
1 Harrison Street, S.E., MSC #63, Leesburg VA 20175

Please make checks payable to: Forum for Rural Innovation

☐ Please check here for vegetarian meal

☐ I do not wish to have my contact information shared

Name

Organization/Farm Name

Mailing Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone

Email

Please RSVP by March 6, 2015. Space is Limited!!

For additional information, please call 703-777-0426 or visit biz.loudoun.gov

If you require any type of reasonable accommodation as a result of a physical or sensory disability to participate in this event, please contact 703-777-0426.